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March 7, 2024

The Honorable Alex Padilla
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Garamendi
U.S. House of Representatives
2004 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable Laphonza Butler
United States Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: SUPPORT – Community Project Funding Request, Mare Island Interchange, Solano County, California (Solano Transportation Agency)

Dear Senators Padilla and Butler and Representative Garamendi,

On behalf of the Solano County Board of Supervisors, I write in strong support for the Solano Transportation Authority's Mare Island Interchange Project located in Vallejo, California. The Solano Transportation Authority (STA) is seeking \$2.5 Million in Community Project Funding. The allocation of the Community Project Funds would provide proper funding for the Project Initiation Document (PID), a crucial step for further phases of this transformative project.

The Mare Island Interchange is a pivotal crossing between the peninsula of Mare Island and the gateway to the North Bay Area via State Route 37 (SR 37) linking commuters to their workplaces, students to educational opportunities, and essential workers to their communities. With a population size of 1,078 individuals, over 100 businesses generating more than 3,000 jobs, and Touro University's 1,400 enrolled students; improving the Mare Island Interchange would be the catalyst to reinvigorating the economic vitality of a historically disadvantaged region by improving the mobility and accessibility to these essential locations.

This Project aims to grow the economies of the local region, reduce traffic congestion along the SR 37 corridor, and improve accessibility for emergency vehicles to reach their destination without delay. The Mare Island Interchange Project would be a gateway of economic revitalization and community development on the peninsula fostering resilient buildings, infrastructure, and landscapes. With the population of Solano County anticipated to increase up to 24 percent by the year 2040, this project is necessary to combat traffic congestion and the lack of affordable homes.

This Project fulfills the stated objectives of the Community Project Funding to grow economies, improve reliable and affordable transportation options, and enhance health access and safety for residents in the region. We thank you for your consideration on the Mare Island Interchange improvement program.

Honorable Alex Padilla
Honorable Laphonza Butler
Honorable John Garamendi
March 7, 2024
Page 2

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mitch N. Mashburn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mitch Mashburn, Chair
Solano County Board of Supervisors

CC:

The Honorable Mike Thompson, U.S. Representative
The Honorable Bill Dodd, California State Senator
The Honorable Lori D. Wilson, California State Assemblymember
The Honorable Solano County Board of Supervisors
Daryl Halls, Executive Director, Solano Transportation Authority
Paragon Government Relations
Karen Lange, SYASL Partners, Inc.